

1 **BYTE STREAM ORGANIZATION WITH IMPROVED RANDOM AND KEYED**
2 **ACCESS TO INFORMATION STRUCTURES**

3 **ABSTRACT**

4 The invention improves processing time when accessing information in a byte stream and
5 avoids the step of deserializing unneeded portions of the byte stream when the byte stream
6 encodes an information structure corresponding to a schema with arbitrarily nested lists and
7 tuples. It facilitates efficient keyed access when lists of tuples represent tables with key columns
8 by storing tables in *nested column order*, which extends the well-known concept of column-order
9 so as to apply to arbitrarily nested tables. Using well-known offset calculation techniques within
10 the nested lists that result from nested column order, the invention achieves greater efficiency by
11 grouping together all scalar information items that correspond to the same node in a tree
12 representation of the schema.